**Funding boost for young people’s music workshops   
in rural Nottinghamshire communities**

**Xxx March 2022** –

Multicultural music workshops for children and teenagers living in rural communities in Nottinghamshire will begin next month thanks to a funding boost.

Cultural education charity, The Mighty Creatives, has awarded local musicians Njega Sohna and Liz Lenten (BEM) £7,500 from its ‘Creative Communities Fund’ to deliver changemaking arts projects for young people in need in the county.

The grant will be used by the duo to develop and deliver percussion, composition and song writing activities for children whose lives have been impacted by limited public transport and lack of access to music in school during the pandemic.

**Njega Sohna, Director of Gambia Afro Beat said:** *“The funding from The Mighty Creatives means we can deliver multicultural performance and interactive workshops in rural areas where there hasn’t been many activities or performances due to Covid.*

*“Music and song writing has lots of social, emotional, and mental health benefits for young people, and this project will provide a much-needed opportunity for children to be creative and expressive, especially after the restrictions and limitations of the last few years.*

*“It is about bringing those from isolated communities together to learn about different cultures and musical skills. They will all get to create an original piece of music, take part in a shared performance, and possibly even gain a recognised arts award. It will make a huge difference and we are delighted to have been awarded the grant.”*

**Hannaa Hamdache, Creative Communities Manager at The Mighty Creatives, said:** *“Our Creative Communities Fund has gone directly to grassroots arts and culture organisations in the East Midlands so that they can provide much-needed creative programmes in their local areas for children most at risk of being left behind or unsupported due to Covid.*

*“The cultural education sector has been hugely affected over the last two years and with many activities having been stopped or postponed, children in need are the ones who have been most impacted.*

*“We’re very excited to see the impact of our financial boost, and the outcomes that this important project will have of the local rural community.”*

For more information on The Mighty Creatives visit: [www.themightycreatives.com](http://www.themightycreatives.com)

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**About The Mighty Creatives**

Established in 2009, [The Mighty Creatives](http://www.themightycreatives.com/) is a charity which transforms the lives of children and young people in need through arts, culture and creativity. Based at the heart of the cultural quarter in Leicester, our beneficiaries are children and young people from birth to 30 years old across the East Midlands.

We work in partnership with children and young people, key funders and sector partners to champion, develop, deliver and grow:

* services that can be scaled up, demonstrate reach and result in significant and measurable cultural and social impacts
* inspiring opportunities for children and young people to engage with arts and culture
* investment in children and young people’s own creative skills, knowledge and practice
* capacity in the cultural and education sectors to support the infrastructure of the region
* programmes of cultural and creative education regionally, nationally and internationally
* models of practice which ensure that the creative voices of children and young people are at the heart of all our programmes.

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